

I am writing regarding grave concern about the FCC's new ruling regarding unsolicited faxes. Docket # 02-278.

First the ruling will greatly hamper our ability to do business. The time and record keeping necessary to comply will cost us many man hours. Because of our current economy it is necessary to run our business on as few employees as possible, making it difficult to have an adequate sales force. To compensate for that, we often fax on our own initiative and at customer request, information on products, product special pricing, open house announcements and invoices. This regulation will be an unnecessary burden to our company, and will result in a great loss of productivity in a time when our economy demands the opposite.

My second concern is that we have not once had a problem with faxes received from businesses with an established business relationship. We have not received any complaints from our customers regarding material we fax to them. We do however receive faxes at our place of business from companies with which we have no established business relationship. This is a violation of the current FCC regulations. The FCC should focus their attention on enforcing current law as opposed to stretching this regulation and harming all legitimate small business concerns, and their ability to communicate with their customers.

Even without the FCC enforcing its current faxing regulations, we waste substantially more time, reviewing SPAM emails, than unwanted faxes. Each day our 25 email accounts receive a combined 1,000 SPAM emails. The time to review those filtered as SPAM to ensure they are not legitimate emails, and the time to add new "rules" to stop SPAM not filtered each day, waste approximately 30 minutes per day. If the FCC is concerned about assisting small businesses, its focus should be on SPAM emails not unsolicited faxes.

On behalf of many small businesses that will be unnecessarily harmed by this ridiculous change in FCC regulations, I ask that you do whatever you can, to get this regulation overturned.